

# THE BOSTON MORNING POST.

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## ROGER WILLIAMS.

The North American Review, in paying a just tribute to the rare talents, and expanded and liberal views of Mr Bancroft, who is now engaged in writing a history of the United States, thus alludes to his account of that Apostate of Religious Liberty, ROGER WILLIAMS:—

He (Mr Bancroft) perceives in the toleration principle of Williams a jewel, like the great Portuguese diamond, of inestimable value, which had till lately been sadly obscured, under the unsightly exterior and sordid crust of party prejudice and sectarian controversy. Carefully drawing to his aid, the numerous and respectable commentators of the present and the former days, he nevertheless goes to the fountain-heads of authority, and derives his account of Roger Williams from the colony records, from the journal of Governor Winthrop, from the work of John Cotton, and the letters and other writings of Williams himself.—From these materials, he has deduced the following noble and delightful sketch:—

"While the state was thus connecting, by the closest bonds, the energy of its faith with its form of government, there appeared in its midst, one of those clear minds, which sometimes bless the world, by their power of receiving moral truth in its clearest light, and of reducing the just conclusions of their principles to a happy and consistent practice. In February of the first year of the Colony, but a few months after the arrival of Winthrop, and before either Cotton or Hooker had embarked for New England, there arrived at Nantasket, after a stormy passage of sixty-six days, 'a young minister, godly and zealous, having precious gifts.' It was Roger Williams. He was then but a little more than thirty years of age; but his mind had already matured a doctrine, which secures him an immortality of fame, as its application has given religious peace to the American world. He was a puritan, and a fugitive from English persecution—but his wrongs had not clouded his accurate understanding. In the capacious recesses of his mind, he had revolved the nature of intolerance, and he, and he alone had arrived at the great principle, which is its sole effectual remedy. He announced his discovery, under the simple proposition of the sanctity of conscience. The civil magistrate should restrain crime, but never control opinion; should punish guilt, but never violate the freedom of the soul.—The doctrine contained within itself an entire reformation of theological jurisprudence. It would blot from the statute book the crime of non-conformity—would quench the fires which persecution had so long kept burning—would repeat every law compelling attendance on public worship—would abolish tithes and all forced contributions to the maintenance of religion—would give an equal protection to every form of religious faith, and never suffer the authority of the civil government to be enlisted against the mosque of the muselman, or the altar of the fire-worshipper; against the Jewish synagogue or the Roman cathedral. It is wonderful, with what distinctness, Roger Williams deduced these inferences from his great principle, the consistency with which, like Pascal and Edwards, those bold and profound reasoners on other subjects, he accepted every fair inference from his doctrines, and the circumspection with which he repelled every unjust imputation. In the unwavering assertion of his views, he never changed his position. The sanctity of conscience was the great tenet, which, with all its consequences, he defended, as he first trod the shores of New England; and in his extreme old age, it was the last pulsation of his heart.—But it placed the young emigrant in direct opposition to the whole system on which Massachusetts was founded; and gentle and forgiving as was his temper, prompt as he was to concede every thing which honesty permitted, he always asserted his belief, with temperate firmness and unyielding benevolence.

'So soon therefore as Williams arrived in Boston, he found himself among the New England churches, but not of them. They had not yet renounced the use of force in religion; and he could not, with his entire mind, adhere to churches, which retained the offensive features of English legislation. What then was the commotion in the colony, when it was found that the people of Salem desired to receive him as their teacher! The court of Boston, 'marvelled' at the precipitate decision, and the people of Salem were required to forbear. Williams withdrew to the settlement at Plymouth, and remained there about two years. But his virtues had won the affections of the church at Salem; and the apostle of intellectual liberty was once more welcomed to their confidence. He remained the object of public jealousy. How mild was his conduct was evident from an example. He had written an essay on the nature of the teare by which the colonists held their lands in America; and he had argued, that an English patent could not invalidate the rights of the native inhabitants. The opinion sounded, at first, like treason against the cherished charter of the colony; Williams desired only that the offensive manuscript might be burned; and so effectually explained its purport, that the court applauded his temper, and declared that "the matters were not so evil, as at first they seemed."

After stating, with candor and impartiality, the controversy between Williams and the magistrates, on the subjects of communion with the Church of England, the laws compelling the attendance of every man at public worship, the right of the government to enact laws to prevent the spread of religious error, and the right and policy of enjoining the Freeman's oath, Mr Bancroft alludes to the insinuations thrown out against the soundness of Williams's intellect, in the following fine strain of remark:—

"The scholar, who is accustomed to the pursuits of abstract philosophy, lives in a world of thought far different from that by which he is surrounded. The range of his understanding is remote from the paths of common minds, and he is often the victim of the contrast. It is not unusual for the world to reject the voice of truth, because its tones are strange; to declare doctrines unsound, only because they are new; and even to charge obliquity or derangement on the man, who brings forward principles which the many repudiate.—Such has ever been the way of the world; and Socrates, and St Paul, and Luther, and others of the most acute dialecticians, have been ridiculed as drivellers and madmen. The extraordinary development of one faculty may sometimes injure the balance of the mind, just as the constant exercise of one member of the body injures the beauty of its proportions; or as the exclusive devotedness to one pursuit, politics for instance, or money, bruises away from conduct and character, the agreeable varieties of light and shade. It is a very ancient remark, that folly has its corner in the brain of every wise man; and certain it is that not the poets only, like Tasso, but the clearest minds, like Sir Isaac Newton and Pascal, have been deeply tinged with insanity. Perhaps Williams pursued his sublime principles with too scrupulous minuteness. It was at least natural for Bradford and his contemporaries, while they acknowledged his power as a preacher, to esteem him 'unsettled in judgment.'

Notwithstanding the unpopularity of Williams's views, the church of Salem elected him their teacher. This brought on the crisis. The ministers assembled, and declared any one worthy of banishment, who should obstinately assert, that the civil magistrates might not intercede even to stop a church from apostasy and heresy." To punish the people of Salem, while a course of ecclesiastical discipline was pursued toward Williams and his church, a grant of public land was withheld from the inhabitants of the town. Roused by this act of practical injustice, Williams and his church addressed letters of admonition unto all the churches, whereof any of the magistrates were members, that they might admonish the magistrates of their injustice.

"This last act," says Mr Bancroft, "seemed flagrant treason; and at the next General Court, Salem was disfranchised, till an ample apology for the letter should be made. The town acquiesced in its wrongs and submitted; not an individual remained willing to justify the letter of remonstrance. The church of Williams would not avow his great principle of the sanctity of conscience; even his wife, under a delusive idea of duty, was for a season influenced to disturb the tranquility of his home, by her reproaches. Williams was left alone, absolutely alone. Anticipating the censures of the colonial churches, he declared himself no longer subjected to their spiritual jurisdiction. 'My own voluntary withdrawing from all these churches, resolved to continue in persecuting the witnesses of the Lord, presenting light unto them, I confess it was mine own voluntary act, yea, I hope the act of the Lord Jesus, proclaiming truth, as with the voice of a trumpet.'—When summoned to appear before the General Court, he avowed his convictions in the presence of the representatives of the State, "maintained the rocky strength of his grounds," and declared himself "ready to be bound and banished, even to die in New England," rather than renounce the opinions, which had dawned upon his mind, in the clearness of light. At a time, when Germany was the battle-field for all Europe, in the implacable wars of religion, when even Holland was bleeding with the anger of her vengeful factions, when France was still to grieve through the fearful struggle with bigotry, when England was gasping under the despotism of intolerance, more than forty years before William Penn became an American proprietor, Roger Williams asserted the great doctrine of intellectual liberty. It became his glory to found a state upon that principle, and to stamp himself upon its rising institutions, in characters so deep, that the impress has remained to the present day, and like the image of Phidias on the shield of Minerva, can never be erased without the total destruction of the work. The principles, which he first sustained amidst the bickerings of a colonial parish, next asserted in the General Court of Massachusetts, and then introduced into the wilds of Narragansett Bay, he soon found occasion to publish to the world, and to defend as the basis of the religious freedom of mankind; as the lark, that pleasant bird of the peaceful summer, "affecting to soar aloft, springs upward from the ground, takes his rise from pale to tree," and at last surmounting the highest hills, utters his clear carols through the skies of morning. He was the first person in modern christendom, to assert, in its plenitude, the doctrine of the liberty of conscience, the equality of opinions before the law; and in its defence he was the harbinger of Milton, the precursor and the superior of Jeremy Taylor. For Taylor limited his toleration to a few christian sects; the philanthropy of Williams compassed the earth. Taylor favored partial reform, commanded lenity, argued for forbearance, and entered a special plea in behalf of each tolerable sect; Williams would permit persecution of no opinion, of no religion; leaving heresy unharmed by law, and orthodoxy unprotected by the terrors of penal statutes.—Taylor still clung to the necessity of positive regulations, enforcing religion and eradicating error. He resembled the poets, who in their folly still declare their hero invulnerable, and then clothe him with earthly armor.—Williams was willing to leave truth alone in her own panoply of light, believing that if in the ancient feud of truth and error, the employment of force could be entirely abrogated, truth would have much the best of the bargain. It is the custom of mankind to award high honors to the successful inquirer into the laws of nature, to those who advance the bounds of human knowledge. We praise the man who first analyzed the air, or resolved water into its elements, or drew the lightning from the clouds; though the condition of physical investigation may have ripened the public mind, at the time, for the advancement in science. A moral principle has a much wider and nearer influence on human happiness; nor can any discovery of truth be of more direct benefit to society, than that which establishes a perpetual religious peace, and spreads tranquillity through every community, and every bosom. If Copernicus is held in perpetual reverence, because, on his death-bed, he published to the world, that the sun is the centre of our system; if the name of Kepler is preserved in the annals of human excellence, for his sagacity in detecting the laws of the planetary motion; if the genius of Newton has been almost adored for dissecting a ray of light and weighing heavenly bodies as in a balance, let there be for the name of Roger Williams, at least, some humble place, among those, who have advanced moral science and made themselves the benefactors of mankind."

Roger Williams was banished, but not by a large majority of votes, in the General Court.—The gravamen of his crime, was, that his doctrine, touching the illegality of the Freeman's oath, threatened to subvert the fundamental state and government of the country! The punishment thus decreed was attended with sufferings, which cannot be supposed to have entered into the contemplation of those, who pronounced the sentence.

Winter was at hand. Williams succeeded in obtaining permission to remain till spring, intending then to begin a plantation in Narragansett Bay. But the affects of the people of Salem revived and could not be restrained. They thronged to his house to hear him, whom they were so soon to lose forever. It began to be rumored, that he could not safely be allowed to found a new state in the vicinity. The people were "many of them much taken, with the apprehension of his godliness;" there was evident danger, that his opinions would prove contagious; that the infection would spread widely. It was therefore resolved to remove him to England, in a ship that was just ready to sail. A warrant was accordingly sent to him to come to Boston and embark. For the first time, he declined the summons of the court. A pinnace was sent for him; the officers repaired to his house; he was no longer there. Three days before he had left Salem, in winter snow, and inclement weather, of which he remembered the severity, even in his late old age. "For fourteen weeks he was sorely lost in a winter season, not know-

\* The magistrate, of course, being the judge of what apostacy and heresy are. It is painful to see how promptly our fathers put themselves in the wrong, in the argument against the English hierarchy.

ing what bread or bed did mean." Often in the stormy night, he had neither fire, nor food, nor company; often he wandered without a guide and had no house, but a hollow tree. But he was not without friends. The same scrupulous respect for the rights of others, which led him to defend the freedom of conscience, had made him also the champion of the Indians. He had already been zealous to acquire their language; and knew it so well, that he could debate with them in their own dialect. During his residence at Plymouth, he had often been the guest of the neighboring sachems; and now when he came in winter to the cabinet of the chief of Pokanoket, he was welcomed by Massasoit, and the barbarous heart of Canonicus, the chief of the Narragansets, loved him as his son to the last gasp. "The ravens," he relates with gratitude, "fed me in the wilderness." And in requital for their hospitality, he was ever, through his long life, their friend and benefactor; the apostle of christianity to them without hire, without weariness, and without impatience at their idiosyncrasies; the guardian of their rights; the pacifier when their rude passions were inflamed; and their unflinching advocate and protector, whenever Europeans attempted an invasion of their rights.

"He first pitched and began to build and plant at Seekonk. But Seekonk was found to be within the patent of Plymouth. On the other side of the water, the country opened in its unappropriated beauty; and there he might hope to establish a community, as free as the other colonies.

"It was in June, that the lawgiver of Rhode Island, with five companions, embarked on the stream. A frail Indian canoe contained the founder of an independent state and its earliest citizens. Tradition has marked the spring near which they landed; it is the parent spot, the first inhabited nook of Rhode Island. To express his unbroken confidence in the mercies of God, Williams called the place PROVIDENCE. "I desired," said he, "it might be for a shelter for persons distressed for conscience."

"In his new abode, Williams could have less leisure than ever for contemplation and study. "My time," he observes of himself, and it is a sufficient apology for the roughness of his style, as a writer on morals, "was not spent altogether in spiritual labors; but day and night, at home and abroad, on the land and water, at the hoe, at the oar, for bread." In the course of two years, he was joined by others, who fled to his asylum. The land which was now occupied by Williams, was within the territory of the Narragansett Indians. It was not long, before an Indian deed from Canonicus and Miantonomoh made him the undisputed possessor of an extensive domain. Nothing displays more clearly the character of Roger Williams, than the use which he made of his acquisition of territory. The soil he could claim as his "own, as truly as any man's coat upon his back," and he "reserved to himself" not one foot of land, not one title of political power, more than he granted to servants and strangers." He gave away his lands and other estates to them, that he thought were most in want, until he gave away all." He chose to found a commonwealth in the unmixt forms of a pure democracy, where the will of the majority should govern the state. Yet "only in civil things." God alone was respected as the ruler of conscience. "To their more aristocratic neighbors, it seemed "as if these fugitives would have no magistrates," for every thing was as yet decided in the convention of the people.—This first system has had its influence on the whole political history of Rhode Island. In no state in the world, not even in the agricultural state of Vermont, has the magistracy so little power or the representatives of the people so much. The annals of Rhode Island, if written in the spirit of philosophy, would exhibit the forms of society under a peculiar aspect. Had the territory of the state corresponded in size to the importance and singularity of the principles of its early existence, the world would have been filled with wonder at the phenomena of its history.

"The most touching trait, in the character of the founder of Rhode Island, was his conduct toward his persecutors. Though keenly sensitive to the hardships which he had endured, he was far from harboring feelings of revenge, toward those who had banished him, and only regretted their delusion, "I did ever from my soul honor and love them, even when their judgment led them to afflict me." In all his writings on the subject, he attacked the spirit of intolerance, the doctrine of persecution, and never his persecutors or the colony of Massachusetts. Indeed, we shall presently behold him require their severity, by exposing his life at their request and for their benefit. It is not strange, then, "if many hearts were touched with relentings. That great and pious soul, Mr Winslow, melted and kindly visited me at Providence," said the exile, "and put a piece of gold into the hands of my wife, for our supply."

The founder, the legislator, the proprietor of Rhode Island owed a shelter to the hospitality of an Indian chief, and his wife the means of sustenance to the charity of a stranger. The half-wise Cotton Mather concedes, that many judicious persons confessed him to have the root of the matter in him; and his nearer friends, the immediate witnesses of his actions, declared him from "the whole course and tenor of his life and conduct, to have been one of the most disinterested men that ever lived, a most pious and heavenly-minded soul."

**BONNET FLOWERS.**—Just received at W. THAYER'S, No. 22 Hanover st., one case elegant Bonnet Flowers, new patterns, are for sale low. Ladies in want of a new and beautiful article will do well to call before purchasing. nov 6

**TENNENT'S PHILADELPHIA STOCKS.**—J. G. WYMAN has received a small invoice of the above beautiful Neck Stocks. Gentlemen wishing the article can be supplied by calling at 71 Washington st. opposite the Post office

**CARRAGEEN, OR IRISH MOSS.** 4 crates of this much esteemed article, with directions for use, just received direct from Ireland, and for sale in parcels to suit purchasers by HENSHAW & CO, 23 Granite stores, Commercial wharf. em n10

**CINNAMON BRANDY AND WINE.**—25 pipes Holland Gin, "Weeps" and "Imperial" brandy—15 pipes and halves Cognac Brandy, "Peil's poison" brandy—pipes, halves and qrs Sicily Madeira wine, for sale by JAMES LEEDS, JR. & CO, 18 Long wharf. si

**DOTATOES.**—Only about 25 bbls of the best quality ever offered at this market, for cooking or seed, at \$3 per barrel, for sale by GEO. P. THOMAS, No. 28 India st.

A description of the above article may be seen referring to the "New England Farmer" of the 17th inst.

20 BARRELS ENG. REFINED BORAX, 25 lbs Saltpetre, 50 lbs Oxalic Acid, 300 lbs Carb Ammonia, 2000 lbs Paris Salts—soda—for sale by FLETCHER & HAYWARD, No. 2 India street.

100 BUSH PRIME EASTERN APPLES, in good order—just received—and for sale by S. E. BENSON, No. 42 Commercial st. d29

**NOTICE.**—All persons having demands against me are requested to present them for immediate payment, at my Brush Manufactory, No. 19 Exchange street, Boston. o29

JOHN G. MC MURRAY.

WEESPS GIN.—20 pipes very superior high flavored Wesp Gin, just received from ship Eagle from Amsterdam, for sale by JAMES LEEDS, JR. & CO, 18 Long wharf. epif

MARIS PATERNS.—6 cartons needle work Lace and Muslin Collars and Fishersets, unusually low—just received by S. S. LYNDE.

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**LIST OF LETTERS** remaining in the Post Office, Mass. Jan. 1, 1835

Kingsbury Jas 2  
Kenny Harriet  
Knox Erastus  
Knox Thos 2  
Kneeny John  
Kenyon Catharine  
Kewell Maria  
Larabee Jas C.  
McIntosh Thos or Jas Cummingham  
Mullaly Jas  
Miller Hepz  
Nute Luther  
Orme Eliza Jane  
Peakes Hannah W  
Perry Lorenzo  
Patch Sylvia  
Parker Jas  
Reed Jason  
Robbins Seth  
Randall Eliza B  
Sanderson Francis  
Durgin Clark  
Eaton Jacob  
Fleming Richard  
Fenn Andrew  
Follansbee Harriet J  
Greenough Almiron  
Gordon Frederic A  
Glover Jas M  
Hardy Rachael  
Hayes Rebecca B  
Hopkins Reliance  
Johnson Johnson  
Jackson Geo T  
Jennison John L

J5

NATHAN C. MARTIN, P. M.

**SPLendid ANNUALS FOR 1835.**—For sale by JOHN MARSH, most of the London Annals for 1835—

The Oriental Annual, with numerous plates, in rich and splendid bindings—Keepsakes—Picturesque do do—English and do do—Landscape do do—Biblical do do—Geographical do do—Friendship's Offering do do do—Amateur do do do—Forget-Me-Not do do do—Christmas Box do do do.

American Annals and Books in rich bindings, adapted for Holiday Presents, viz:

The Token and Atlantic Souvenir—Religious Souvenir—Christian Year—Old Volume—Scrap Book—Christmas Box—Year's Gift—The Pearl—Parlor Letter Writer—Young Ladies' Book—Young Man's Book—Young Man's Guide—Youth's Sketch Book—Daughter's Own Book—Youth's Keepsake—Parley's every Day Book—The Premium—Children's Museum—Hemans' Poems, &c. &c.

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**HOLIDAY PRESENTS.**—For sale by JOHN MARSH, 54 Washington st. Assortment of Fine Fancy Stationery, London, &c. fresh imported.

Also—all the American Annals, Books in rich bindings, Family and Pev Pocket Bibles, Byer's Fancy Morocco Work, &c. &c.—adapted for Christmas and New Years.

12 Catalogues of the variety to be had as above, at 34 Washington st.

3w—d23

**CLOTHESWAREHOUSE.**—R. C. KEMP, Draper and Tailor, No. 34 Merchants Row (opposite the south-east corner of Faneuil Hall, Boston,) has just received a prime assortment of BROADCLOTHS, of English, French, German and American manufactures. Colors, blues, blacks, adelaides, mullberries, invisible greens, clarlets, Russells and other browns, olives and bronze greens, drabs, lavender, and Oxford, steel, and French mixtures.

Also, a superior assortment of London, French and American CASSIMERE, of the most fashionable shades and colors. Also, satin, Florence, silk, alpaca, Marseilles and Valencia FESTINGS, of the most fashionable patterns. The above consists of extra fine, middling and low priced qualities, which will be sold or made up to order in the most approved fashions and on the most reasonable terms for cash.

Also, a most splendid assortment of fashionable READY MADE CLOTHING, consisting of Dress and Frock Coats, Pantaloons, Vests, Jackets, Shirts, Stockings and fancy articles, usually found in such an establishment.

N. B. Garments of all kinds made to order at short notice, and in the most approved fashions.

isopf—06

**PAPER, STATIONERY, ACCOUNT BOOKS.**—R. C. KEMP, Draper and Tailor, No. 34 Merchants Row, has just received a prime assortment of BROADCLOTHES, for the public, to be sold at short notice, and which no other manufacturer can compete with in America—for sale by the barrel, gross, dozen or single, at the Warehouse, No. 5 Faneuil Hall.</p

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7, 1835.

We invite the attention of all our readers to an interesting sketch of *LEGER WILLIAMS*, upon First Page; there is no man, of whatever condition you are, but will be pleased and instructed by its perusal.

Washington, Friday, Jan. 2.

The ordinary business of Congress to-day was not much interest, particularly that of the House—Friday being on that branch appropriated to the consideration of private bills.

A communication was received from the Treasury Department relative to the subordinate officers in the Custom Houses, which it was thought might, without apparent to the service, be dispensed with. This matter will no doubt cause some quaking among the *attaches* of the Custom-houses in our Commercial cities, but I think there is little ground for apprehension, as the subject will not be definitely acted on at the present session.

The Wabash improvement bill was also the subject of debate in the Senate—I mean a bill precisely similar to the one which was vetoed last year by the President. Mr. Hendricks supported the bill at length, and was followed by Mr. Pomedexter who took the opportunity to give vent to a tirade of malignity and spite, upon the head of the President, with which he was surcharged. The bill passed to a 3d reading, 22 to 18.

One third of the present session of Congress has elapsed, and there has been no preconcerted plan of opposition to the administration, manifested in either house. Last winter the deposite question was for the time united on apparent harmony, for the purpose of crushing the administration. Let us effect the defeat first, said they, and then we will settle for the succession.

Well, the people through the ballot boxes to whom they were making never ending appeals, have spoken to their utter discomfiture, and the one primary and common object having failed there is nothing left upon which they can rally. The difficulty which would have arisen had the opposition succeeded, they now experience with a hundred fold more force—I mean the selection of a candidate for the Presidency.

It is clear to my mind that the Southern men contemplate no serious opposition to the candidate of the democratic party. I look upon their leaning to Mr. White, which has become settled and avowed, as a demonstration for ulterior purposes—they are content I think, to allow Mr. Van Buren to be elected, because they cannot help it, and are desirous of settling their strength upon some Southern man, with a view of organizing in advance an opposition in the South, to be brought out against us after the first term. But nothing is more plain than that the whole "pie-bald and ring streaked," party are, and feel themselves, far at sea without either chart or compass, to guide them, and as Mr. Webster said of Mr. Calhoun, "like a strong man in a morass, who sinks deeper and deeper, in proportion to the violence of his struggles to extricate himself."

*Funkcians*.—The New York Star gives an account of a very novel machine for medallion engraving, now in operation in that city, the product of the inventive genius of one Mr. Ormsby, an engraver, from "down East." The machine, says the Star, is on the Pentagonal principle, and is set in operation by a species of clock weights and wheels, which are wound up. A sample of the work to be executed is placed in a certain position, over which the tracing is done with singular fidelity, and is transferred to the copper or steel plate below; and after the machine is adjusted and set to work, it will run for twelve hours without winding up; thus a plate to be engraved, consisting of a most delicate heads, figures, flowers, &c. &c., is fixed on the machine at night, and the next morning the artist unlocks the case, and finds his work complete.

We used to laugh when *Jonathan Doubtions* told us about his machine, which, if a live hog was put in the hopper, would turn out scrubbing brushes at one end and ready made sausages at the other, but we will never be so imprudent again; for who knows but some *genus* may have invented a machine for turning innocent laughter into high treason or arson, and that, if we are caught grinning, we may be its first victim.

The Transcript says that Francis Baylies' *physical power* is not of the strength demanded to sustain the fatigue of the Chair—measuring the Speaker's Chair in our House of Representatives. The last time we saw Mr. B. he weighed about two hundred and fifty pounds, and was strong enough, we should think, to lift twice his weight. He may have altered as much in physical power as in politics, since then—and if this be the case, he is indeed a weak man, every way.

*Fire*.—The interior of the new and elegant house of Capt. Oxbury, recently erected upon the Rogers estate, near the State House, was consumed by fire yesterday, at 3 P. M. The extreme coldness of the weather rendered it very difficult to obtain water, or to work the engines; but no difficulties are too arduous or too hazardous for our firemen to overcome—they bid defiance to fire and frost, and discharge their duties, in all seasons, without flinching.

The Legislature of this State will convene at the State House, in this city, at eleven o'clock this morning.

The New Yorkers are making preparations for a splendid Fancy Ball.

*Tremont Theatre*.—Miss Jarman and Mr. Ternan will make their first appearance in this city, this evening. Their success at the south has been very great, and it rather speaks truly of their dramatic talents, they will be cordially welcomed here.

The Warren was crowded on Monday evening—the first night of the revival of the *Six Degrees of Crime*.

*The American Gardner's Magazine*, published by Hovey & Co., promises to be a useful publication for those for whom it is intended. It is to be published monthly, at \$3 per annum.

*To the Editor of the Boston Morning Post—*

SIR.—I enclose to you the following letter, for insertion in your daily paper, not from a desire to advocate Atheism, or to support Kneeland, but because I feel indignant at the *lukewarm* and *unskillful* manner in which vanity and hypocrisy would advocate the cause of religion. Whenever an *able* writer shall defend the word of God—free from motives of selfishness or hope of popularity and gain—he shall not only have my most cordial support, but my most earnest prayers to heaven for the success of his labors. A SUBSCRIBER.

*To the Writer on Atheism in the N. E. Magazine—*

SIR.—You have given the public another specimen of English composition. Your last number contained a *hasty* and *imperfect* article, and you add with conscious indecision, that you did not hope to do much yourself, but merely wished to give the alarm. This style is adequate to your capacity. You are far better qualified for a watch than for an instructor; and had you always contented yourself with employments suitable to your understanding, you would now be spared the mortification of seeing your literary productions the object of derision and pity. A mind like yours is most respected when unnoticed, and cannot acquire notoriety without incurring censure.

Your ardour in the cause of religion has considerably cooled down by the lapse of a month, and, to judge from the relaxed tone which pervades your second number, you would willingly have quitted the field had your vanity not prompted you to another charge; were it but to show the public that you are not scarcely vanquished.

Your topics are no longer God and religion; but your imagination runs wild upon matrimonial engagements and marriage. You would not molest the free inquirers, were they to trample and spit upon the bible, could you but make them believe in the sanctity of the marriage contract. These are the effusions of a tender heart, for which the fair of your acquaintance owe many acknowledgments. You are a ladies' man, sir, and for aught I know may be already rewarded beyond your merits.

But it is not only to the young ladies that you are thus devoted. As a watchman of society you are equally eloquent in your appeals to the matrons. Like other watchmen, you have presented them, on New Year's day, with an epic poem, trumpeting forth your exertions for the public safety, and the good watch you have kept—on others.

You are particularly eloquent on the subject of education, and have communicated to your friends the valuable information that

"All the world's a school house,  
And all the men and women scholars."

Now, this does credit to your ingenuity. For had you compared the world to a stage, on which we ourselves are performing our several parts, perchance you might not have liked to play your's in public.

Without alluding any further to the metaphorical confusion which characterizes your style, permit me to give the public some specimens of your uncommon perspicuity and imitable pathos. You say—

"There is this which makes against our argument—that people will not consider themselves the light of learners; a tyro never knows he is a tyro; but he is, and deserves not the first diploma of wisdom until he is ready to endorse it with an acknowledgment that he is but a fool; but you could not insult one of the infiels of the enlightened Federal street school more than to tell him that, like Newton, he was picking up pebbles by the ocean of truth—for he knows not enough to know he is a fool."

What is the short sense of your long speech, if you do not mean to insinuate that you yourself are entitled to the first diploma of wisdom? And suppose the public thought you a fool, would you be ready to endorse it with an acknowledgment?

As a specimen of the sublime let the public enjoy the following sentence:—

"Let us hurry on then the car of education—let it not stop a moment, or it will sink in the mid-way morass it reaches from ground; let not the people rest with the dangerous little knowledge; they have ascended just so far as to be in the region where clouds and vapours distort the moral vision—let them mount to the summit, where the glorious sun of truth sheds the beauty and perfection, by shewing the design and order of all things."

Pray, sir, have you risen to that moral elevation, where your sight is no longer obscured by clouds and vapors? And how can you reconcile this contradiction with your diploma of wisdom? Or does education necessarily lead through filth and vice, that we must only touch its surface? I have always held a different opinion.

I thought "haste made waste," and see a happy illustration of the proverb in your own production.

Your hobbles might be much less pathetic, and contain infinitely more common sense, had you not been in such a hurry "to roll on the car of education."

Let me record one more happy sally of your genius—

"But it is not merely to fabricate the instruments for pouring out knowledge into the never-dried vessel of the human mind."

Such beautiful figures of speech mark every where the sublimity of your bathos; but I did not know that knowledge could be "poured and poured" from one mind into the other, like a liquid, unless it be of that soft incoherent consistency, which, being solely based upon memory, adorns the pages of your essays in the magazine.

You are even a successful imitator of the style of Meg Merriles, when you exclaim—

"There are among these leaders men of worldly substance, men who still yield their influence and hypocrisy, which vice pays to virtue, and who are desirous with an *Oblique* to be admitted into society; let them be known, let the finger of scorn be pointed at them; let no notice be taken only by the look of contempt; let the merchant erase their names from his books; let females close the doors of their drawing-rooms to them, as they would to blacklegs and swindlers."

But through all this alienation of mind, your self-love remains undisturbed. The purity of your morals, and the sanctity of your character, are still uppermost in your ravings; and so apprehensive are you of the leprosy which might defile you by contact, that you aver you

"Would sooner have your right hand wither, than receive, in a *Julus-gras*, that of men who are more despicable than the bold pirate or the open robber."

After this modest protestation of your cleanliness, you would hoist a flag of truce, and drop the matter for the present. But I cannot let you off so cheap. I must remind you of your solemn pledge to prove that the weekly balls at the Temple of Reason have been made use of as opportunities for assignation and intrigue.—Have you thought better on the subject? Should you shrink from the responsibility of a witness? And what, sir, are the public to think of your honest intention to expose the proprietors of the Federal street theatre? How did you show us that you "have respect for no person, and fear no consequences, when attempting to do your duty as watchman and sentinel of society?" How can you reconcile this with your present style—"we know not whether they are to blame?" Did your honor consent to the desertion of your post, good sentinel? Did you prudent point out to you a different course? Were you afraid of committing a friend? Did you dread to offend men who belong to your party? And would you now lay claims to manhood, because your unhappy zeal has met with that popular indignation, which it so justly merited?—Are you serious, when you assert you gave your name to the article on Atheism, merely for the weight it might carry? Do you really believe yourself a man of influence? Was it compatible with the dignity of religion to have you for a champion? And did you not sound the trumpet and flourish your sword, when you knew no antagonist would appear? And did your heavy armor, which your weak frame could ill support, not weigh you down before you were struck? Did you not gird yourself with the terror of the law and the sword of justice, when you were scarce able to sway the ferule?

And as for the dogs you say you scared from a foul prey—they were preying upon your genius; and well may you say, it was a foul prey! My ambition does not willingly stoop to food so destitute of flavor. I am neither naturally cruel nor fond of small game; but when it obtuses itself upon my notice, I'll fly it.

No Joke.

## POLICE COURT.

*Death of Subjects*.—It is an ill wind that blows nobody good, and the same fierce northwester that raises the price of fuel, also lays a "frozen hand" on the "pickers and scalers" of the vagrant tribe who are usually marshalled up for morning parade, at the bar of the Police Court, and "to answer, then and there," for their divers and manifold sins, both of omission and commission, against the peace and dignity of the Commonwealth. But when

"comes the calm, mild day, as still such days will come, To call the squirrel and the bee out from their winter home," it will again warm the scaly wretches into life and loathsome wickedness, to prey upon the property of their neighbors, and offend the public sense of decency by their unseemly tricks; and thus the world jogs on throughout the season, when

"falls the frost from the clear, cold heaven, as falls the plague on men."

and the grave and the good are alternately afflicted with cold and crime, to the end of the winter chapter of the calendar.

But one sentence—a painful one to those who had to execute, or witness it—was passed yesterday:—it contained an interesting but mischievous girl, of 15, to the House of Reformation. She was the only daughter of a widow, who, living out as a domestic, was unable to devote to her orphan child that personal attention which her dangerous age—so susceptible of good or evil influences—particularly required. Her attire and deportment in court, bore evidence, that she had been the subject, though an unwilling one, of all the care that her mother's limited means admitted of. Her principal failings were an unconquerable aversion to the confinements of school, an irrepressible restlessness under every species of protective and parental restraint, and an instability of temperament, that rendered her discontented, in the most comfortable places of abode. Her conduct must have been bitter and trying to her mother, who was also respectable in appearance and manners; for, with the exception of her delinquent daughter, she has neither "cheek nor child," on whom she can lavish a mother's love.

*A Ball Room Riot*.—On New Year's Night, a party of about one hundred young gentlemen and ladies, belonging to Sudbury, assembled for a ball at a public house in that town, when six young men from Framingham came to the same house in a sleigh, and intruded themselves into the hall, and becoming rude and noisy, were ordered by the managers to leave the room, which they did, but soon returned, armed with heavy clubs, and commenced a general assault upon the company, and were resisted by the gentlemen of the company, the fairer portion flying in all directions. After a bloody battle of thirty minutes, in which the principal musician received a blow which has probably maimed him for life, the original occupants of the hall were expelled, some seeking their safety by jumping from the windows. The assailants left for Framingham without being molested. By the exertions of General Rutter, three of the assailants were apprehended on the following day, and have settled the difficulty by paying to the managers of the ball the sum of eighty dollars.—Briggs.

*Fire in Dorchester*.—On Monday evening at 7 1/2 o'clock, the large house owned and occupied by Mr. Joseph Hallister, of the firm of McLellan & Hallister, situated near Dorchester five corners, was discovered to be on fire, supposed to have been taken by a spark falling into a trunk of clothing belonging to a domestic, from whence it spread to a large closet, and burnt through the side of the house before it was discovered, was extinguished by the well directed efforts of the neighbors, before the arrival of an engine.—Ibid.

*Young Rogues*.—Yesterday afternoon two lads went into store 230 Washington street, upon pretence of purchasing a pair of gloves, and watching their opportunity, one of them, who had on a cloak, and was apparently about 17 years of age, stole a piece of ribbon, which they offered at several stores in the neighborhood, for a mere trifle. They were seen to inquire of a boy, when they got out of the door, if he had been to the fire with the engine—which may possibly lead to their detection, if the boy should be able to recollect what lad asked him that question.—Advocate.

*A Real Jack Frost*.—The Transcript says that—

"Saturday a seaman left a ship from New Orleans, in the lower harbor, to come to the city in boat. He got up opposite the Fort, when he was stopped by the police. Night closed in, and he remained in the boat till Sunday morning, when he left her, and passed over the ice to South Boston, where he arrived safe, without being frost bitten. He must have been 'weather proof.'

*Accident*.—A gentleman in passing through Cambridge street on Monday evening, fell into a cellar, in which had been deposited some wood and lumber.—He received a severe wound on his head, by falling on a sharp stick, and was otherwise considerably injured. Several accidents of this character have happened very recently, through the carelessness of individuals in leaving their cellar doors open over night.—Merc.

In Common Council, on Monday, a memorial was presented by certain voters in Ward 3, remonstrating against the election of the members from that ward, on the ground that they were not legally elected. Referred to the committee of elections.

Ada Byron, the only living offspring of the illustrious poet, though scarcely fourteen, inherits, it is said, the genius of her father, and has written a wild dramatic romance which lately appeared at the Victoria Theatre. She is also about publishing a five act tragedy, called "The Deceived One, or the Fate of Geraldine," in which the *vulture woman*, alluded to by Lord B., is seized.

*The Tables Turned*.—Formerly, it was the practice for husbands to be brought into our criminal courts for beating their wives; but latterly the tables have been completely turned; at the two last Special Sessions two or three women have been tried and convicted for constantly beating their husbands.—N. Y. Trans.

*The Barnegat Pirates*.—We learn from Gen. Darby, that the pirates who had been kept on board Capt. Schenck's vessel (which had been detained below the Hook by head winds) were yesterday safely lodged in Newark jail.—N. Y. Trans.

*Burning to Death*.—Two children and a woman were burnt to death, at Schenectady, on Sunday, in a building which was destroyed by fire.

A parson, at a late meeting, announced to his brethren, that 40 tons of bibles had been shipped to Jamaica.

*IMPORTATIONS*.

*FAYAL*.—Brig Hartington—100 qr casks, 100 sixths, do wine—10 tons 10 lbs 10 oz—15 cwt. mashes—619 lbs oranges—49 do lemons—3 blhs palm oil—4 lbs chia seed—

*NEW ORLEANS*.—Ship Fortune—5268 lbs lead—25 hds, 2 lbs sugar—82 sacks feathers—10 boxes Buffalo robes—54 bags wool—50 casks molasses—7 boxes books—63 hds hams—724 hds cotton.

*CHARLESTON*.—Ship Merchant—1544 lbs cotton. Brig Oregon—500 bales cotton.

*NO JOKES*.

*REVIEW OF THE BOSTON MARKET*.

FOR THE WEEK ENDING TUESDAY, JANUARY 6.

*ASHES*.—The sales have been restricted to a few casks of coal, which is very incomparable, much less than has been known for a corresponding period for many years past; and without doubt will be expected to go higher.

*BIGGINS*.—There have been several parcels taken for shipping, common, common & 1/2, bushel, and Tea Beans at \$2 per bushel.

*COALS*.—The entire stock of foreign Coals, except a small importation of Channel, has passed from first hands, and into stores to supply the retail demand have been at an advance on former prices.—Upwards were taken at 13—14 and 19c per bushel.

*GOLDFISH*.—The business done in the Coffee market has been chiefly for St Domingo, with a decline on former prices—800 1000 bags were taken at 9c—15c do. 10c 9c 1/2c and a 700 do. 10c pr lb. 10c 9c 1/2c and 10c do. 10c 9c 1/2c.

*CORDAGE*.—Further imports, and few sales—last prices are continued.

*COTTON*.—The transactions since our last report, owing to the favorable advices from abroad, the increased demand and short importations at home, have been at an advance on former prices.—Upwards were taken at 13—14 and 19c per bushel.

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**WHOLESALE PRICES CURRENT,  
CORRECTED FOR THE BOSTON MORNING POST,  
FOR THE WEEK ENDING TUESDAY, JAN. 9, 1835.**

ASHES, per cwt	\$100.00	a 105.00	GRAIN, per bushel, new,	.65 a .65
Pots,	13.00	a 13.00	Corn, northern, yellow,	.70 a .75
PEAS, per bushel,			do, southern, .74 a .75	
White,	1.75 a	.25	do, white, .74 a .75	
BARKILLA, per 2240 lbs.			Oats, northern, .47 a .50	
Sicily,	60.00 a	.00	Rye, northern, .30 a .33	
Tremont,	55.00 a	.55	do, southern, .55 a .60	
American ground,			HONEY, .50 a .60	
BEESWAX, per lb.			WAX, .23 a .25	
Yellow,	1.18 a	.23	do, white, .23 a .25	
White,	.23 a	.25	CANDLES, per lb.	
" dipped," .23 a	.25	BALM, per lb.		
Sperm,	.23 a	.25	CLERICAL, per 2240 lbs.	
GLOVER SEED, per lb.		Outsalt,	150.00 a 160.00	
Northern,	.03 a	.09	BIDES, per lb.	
Southern, none,			Prices, 1st and 2d Tiers of Boxes \$1. Third Tier of Boxes	
COAL, Cargo prices sales			75 cents. Pit 50 cents. Gallery 25 cents.	
Anthracite,	5.50 a	.00		
N. Castle,	5.50 a	.00		
Sidney,	5.00 a	.25		
Orchard,	5.50 a	.00		
Retailing prices according to				
quality,				
Anthracite, per 2000 lbs.				
.00 a .00				
Newcastle per chaldron,	10.50 a	11.00		
Orrel,	10.50 a	11.00		
COCOA, per lb.				
Island,	.05 a	.06		
Panama,	.06 a	.06		
Coffee,	.11 a	.12		
COFFEE, per lb.				
Java,				
Ponto Rico,	.11 a	.12		
St. Domingo,	.03 a	.10		
Havana,	.10 a	.11		
Brazil,	.11 a	.12		
CORDAGE, per lb.				
Am. com.	.03 a	.06		
Patent,	.03 a	.06		
Russia, short price,	.03 a	.06		
COTTON, per lb.				
Geo. Up'd,	.17 a	.19		
New Orleans,	.18 a	.20		
Alabama,	.18 a	.20		
Tenneuse, none, a				
S. Island, none, a				
Mariannah,				
Suriannah,				
DOFFER, per lb.				
Sleaving,	.03 a	.23		
Pig, Spanish,	.16 a	.00		
Bolts, Am.	.24 a	.25		
Oil,	.16 a	.25		
DUGK, per bolt,				
XU	16.00 a	16.25		
DBRuggins,	17.25 a	17.50		
Zotto,	15.50 a	16.00		
Konophoff,	15.00 a	03.00		
Bilbinn,	15.00 a	15.50		
Lam duck,	13.25 a	14.00		
Ravens,	7.00 a	7.25		
Amang,	2.00 a	14.00		
DIAPERS, per piece				
Russia, br'd,	1.50 a	.00		
DYE STUFFS,				
Alum,	.03 a	.04		
Cochineal,	.03 a	.04		
Copperas,	.02 a	.03		
Iodio, Eau, common to prime,				
.10 a				
.10 a				
.12 a				
Ochre, French Yellow,	.02 a			
Yellow Berries, Persian	.02 a			
Camwood, per ton, stick	.23 a	.26		
Canwood,				
.23 a				
Fustic,	70.00 a	75.00		
Braziletto,	14.00 a	22.00		
Logwood, St. Domingo,				
Rio de la Hache,				
Nicaragua,	40.00 a	50.00		
Camppeach,	23.00 a	25.00		
DIJUGS,				
Roll Brimstone, per lb.				
.07 a				
Malta, refined, do				
Crude, ton	.45 a	.50		
Fleur sulphur per lbs.,				
nominal,				
Bark, Peruvian, a				
.18 a				
Borax, refined, per lb.				
.20 a				
Cantharides, per lb.				
.20 a				
Oil, Annis, per lb.				
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